

The Invention

The present invention is directed to a file saving apparatus having a simple structure that is capable of saving files into a plurality of saving destinations.

Prior Art: U.S. 2002/0138504 A1 by Yano et al.

The Yano et al. patent is directed a distributed data archive device and system for saving and extracting data. A data file to be saved (F1) goes through a division/encryption process to separate the file into a plurality of sub files (divided files F11-F14) as described in paragraph 24, lines 8-9, for storage on any of the data servers 2a-2c.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

On page 2 of the Office Action the Examiner rejected claim 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Yano et al. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the file saving unit saves "separately managed complete copies of the original file in the plurality of saving destinations, respectively" (claim 1, last two lines). Nothing has been cited or found in Yano et al. of saving more than one copy of the files. Rather, Yano et al. is directed at scattering portions of a file in such a manner that the original contents of the file are difficult to identify. This is distinctly different from what is recited in claim 1. Therefore, it is submitted that claim 1 and claims 2-8 which depend there from, as well as claims 9 and 10 which have been amended in a similar manner, patentably distinguish over Yano et al.

Summary

It is submitted that Yano et al. does not teach or suggest the features of the present claimed invention. Thus, it is submitted that claims 1-10 are in a condition suitable for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If any further fees are necessary with respect to this paper, the U.S.P.T.O. is requested to obtain the same from Deposit Account Number 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

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on 3/18, 2003
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

1. (ONCE AMENDED) A file saving apparatus comprising:

a plural saving designating unit designating saving destinations in which a file that is single, complete and original should be saved at a plurality of saving destinations; and

a file saving unit saving [said] separately managed copies of the file in [said] the plurality of saving destinations, respectively [thus designated].